

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116  
 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
 EXAMINING GROUP 2800

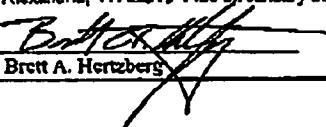
09/849,707

PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Gregory J. Smith et al. Examiner: Danny Nguyen  
 Application No.: 09/849,707 Group Art Unit: 2836  
 Filed: May 4, 2001 Docket No.: 50019.57USU1/P04868  
 Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR IMPROVING ESD AND TRANSIENT  
 IMMUNITY IN SHUNT REGULATORS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(a):

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent via facsimile to 703-872-9306, Commissioner for Patents, ATTN: Examiner Danny Nguyen, U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 26, 2004.

By:   
 Name: Brett A. Hertzberg

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

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**OFFICIAL**

VIA FACSIMILE #703-872-9306  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 ATTN: Examiner Danny Nguyen  
 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Response is submitted in reply to the final Office action mailed November 26, 2003.

In view of the following amendment and response, Applicants respectfully request favorable  
 reconsideration of this application. Please amend the application as follows:

02/09/2004 10AMXMS 0000001 132725 09/849,707

01 FC:1201 344.00 DR

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

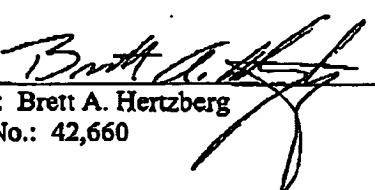
Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.

Appl. No. 09/849,707  
Amrd. dated November 26, 2003  
Reply to final Office action of January 26, 2004

Claims 1 - 7, 9 - 15, and 18 - 25 are now pending in the present application. It is respectfully submitted that each of the presently pending claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is requested. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the below-listed telephone number if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby. Although certain arguments regarding patentability are set forth herein, there may be other arguments and reasons why the claimed invention is patentably distinct. Applicants reserve the right to raise these arguments in the future.

Respectfully submitted,  
MERCHANT & GOULD

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
206.342.6200

By:   
Name: Brett A. Hertzberg  
Reg. No.: 42,660

Customer No. 23552

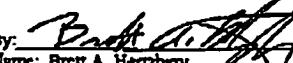
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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116  
 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
 EXAMINING GROUP 2800

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Gregory J. Smith et al.	Examiner:	Danny Nguyen
Serial No.:	09/849,707	Group Art Unit:	2836
Filed:	May 4, 2001	Docket:	50019.57USU1/Po4868
Confirmation No.:	9655	Due Date:	January 26, 2004
Title:	APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR IMPROVING ESD AND TRANSIENT IMMUNITY IN SHUNT REGULATORS		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d): I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent via facsimile to 703-872-9306, Commissioner for Patents, Attn: Examiner Danny Nguyen, U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 26, 2004.

By:   
 Name: Brett A. Hertzberg

VIA FACSIMILE #703-872-9306

Commissioner for Patents  
 ATTN: Examiner Danny Nguyen  
 U.S. Patent & Trademark Office  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

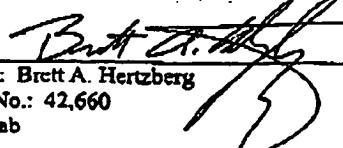
- Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- Amendment and Response
- The fee has been calculated as shown below in the "Claims as Amended" table  
 Please charge Deposit Account #13-2725 for add'l claims fee \$344

CLAIMS AS AMENDED

Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Fee
Total Claims				
22	26	= 0	x 18.00 =	\$0.00
Independent Claims				
8	4	= 4	x 86.00 =	\$344.00
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM FEE				\$0.00
TOTAL FILING FEE				344.00

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
 P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
 206.342.6200

By:   
 Name: Brett A. Hertzberg  
 Reg. No.: 42,660  
 BAH/ab

Customer No. 23552

(PTO TRANSMITTAL - GENERAL)